

## **The City of Knoxville: Public Arts Committee**

### **Public Arts Committee Meeting: June 6, 2017**

Meeting was called to order at 4:04 PM at the Knoxville Museum of Art.

#### **Attendees Present:**

James Taylor – Committee Member  
Judith Foltz – City of Knoxville, Special Events  
Mike Fowler – Committee Member  
Rachel Perkins Haverkamp – Committee Administrator  
Rick Emmett – City of Knoxville, Downtown Coordinator  
Sara Pinnell – Committee Member  
Susana Esrequis – Committee Member

#### **Absent Members:**

Bart Watkins  
Chuck Morris  
Duane Grieve  
Erin Donovan  
Jeffrey Lockett  
John Powers  
Mark Heinz  
Tanisha Baker  
Terry Mosley  
Tommie Rush

**Approval of the Agenda:** Mike moved to approve the agenda. Susana seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

**Approval of the Agenda:** Sara moved to approve the agenda. Mike seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

**Knoxville History Project Traffic Box Wrap:** The committee welcomed Paul James, Development Director for the Knoxville History Project (KHP). Paul stated that KHP had been awarded funding by City People to produce two traffic wraps in downtown Knoxville. Prior to presenting the designs to the committee, Paul worked with Visit Knoxville, the Knoxville Museum of Art, the Arts & Culture Alliance, and the City's Engineering Department to identify appropriate designs and locations for the wraps. In collaboration with David Butler, Paul identified Catherine Wiley and Charles Krutch as the two artists to be featured on the wraps. Paul proposed that Wiley's painting would be wrapped around the traffic box at the corner of Gay Street and Union Ave, and Krutch's painting will be wrapped around the box on Gay Street in front of Krutch Park. A local printer, Graphic Creations, will print the wraps and they will be created with the most graffiti-proof materials available. The wraps have an expected life-span of at least five years. James expressed concern that the artists and locations selected were not

fully representative of Knoxville history and encouraged Paul to identify artists in the black community as well. Sara asked if the project was intended to be just these two traffic wraps, or if it was intended to be a larger project that might eventually see 10 or 15 wraps completed around the city. Paul stated that he hoped it would be a pilot program, and that if these two wraps were successful and well-received, he would like to see others around the city if funding became available. Sara stated that she would like to see a more cohesive proposal that includes what other artists and locations would be considered if the project expanded beyond the pilot phase. Sara added that she was encouraged to see the project was supported by numerous partners and she hoped that other organizations might also want to participate in a traffic wrap project. Mike expressed concern that the artists selected may not have wanted to see their artwork used in such a capacity. After further discussion, the committee invited Paul to develop the idea further and present it to the committee for approval at the July meeting. The committee thanked Paul for his work on the project and the KHP's efforts.

**RB Morris Project:** Rachel informed the committee that RB Morris intends to identify 3-5 potential sites for his wordscapes project and he will present them to the committee for approval at the July meeting.

**Cradle of Country Music Park update:** Mike shared that the landscaping sub-committee met in late May to discuss the possible landscaping options for the site. Mike and Sara both expressed concern that they would be excluded from applying to any RFQ for the site. Duane stated at the sub-committee meeting that he felt it would not be a conflict, and Rick agreed that if Parks & Rec issued the landscaping RFQ, there should not be any conflict. Rachel asked Rick to provide the committee with a formal accounting of the available funds for the project, both for the landscaping and the artwork. Rick will check the numbers and share that information with the committee at the next meeting.

**Steps and Gay Street Projects update:** Rachel informed the committee that no contracts had been issued yet for either the Steps or Gay Street projects. Rick stated that he expected contracts to be ready for the artists after the June 8 meeting with the legal and purchasing departments. Rachel stated that Jessie Unterhalter and Katey Truhn are scheduled to arrive in Knoxville on July 5 to begin working on the steps. Sara asked if a time-lapse video or drone video might be possible to help generate community interest. Judith stated that she knew someone at the Knoxville Police Department who is licensed to fly a drone and might be available to help.

Rachel also shared that Robert Barnum has begun work on his wall sculpture for Gay Street and he is expected to have the piece ready for installation before September 15.

**Future Meetings:**

- A. The next regular meeting is Tuesday, July 11, 2017 at 4:00 PM.
  - a. The meeting will be held at the Knoxville Museum of Art.
- B. Future meetings:
  - a. August 1, 2017
  - b. September 5, 2017
  - c. October 3, 2017

**Meeting adjourned at 4:44 PM**